V. *Part of a Letter from Mr.* Macky, *Profeſſor of* Hiſtory, *to Mr.* Mac Laurin, *Profeſſor of Mathematics in the Univerſity of* Edinburgh, *and by him communicated to the* Preſident *of the* ROYAL SOCIETY; *being an Extract from the Books of the* Town-Council *of* Edinburgh, *relating to a Diſeaſe there, ſuppoſed to be* Venereal, *in the Year* 1497.

Read March 17. 1742-3.

IF the Venereal Diſeaſe was never known in *Europe* till the Siege of *Naples* 1495, it muſt have made a very quick Progreſs through *Europe* in a ſhort time; for in 1497, I find it raging in *Edinburgh*, and our King and his Council terribly alarmed at this contagious Diſtemper, as appears from a Proclamation of King *James* the IVth, in the Records of the Town-Council of *Edinburgh*. The Minute of Council is dated the 22d of *September*. I have taken a Copy of it for your Amuſement, and, if you pleaſe, you may communicate it to the SOCIETY. I have pretty nearly obſerved the old Spelling, except in Numbers.

" 22. *Septr.* 1497.

" IT is our Soverane Lords Will and the Command " of the Lordis of his Counſale ſend to the Proveſt " and Baillies within this burt that this Proclamation " followand be put till execution for the eſchewing " of the greit appearand danger of the Infection of " his Leiges fra this contagious ſickneſs callit the

" *Grandgor*

" *Grandgor* and the greit uther Skayth that may " occur to his Leiges and Inhabitans within this burt; " that is to ſay, we charge ſtraitly and commands " be the Auhority above writtin, that all manner of " perſonis being within the freedom of this burt " quilks are infectit or hes been infectit uncurit with " this ſaid contagious plage callit the *Grandgor*, de- " voyd, red and paſs furt of this Town and compeir " apon the ſandis of *Leith* at ten hours before none " and thair ſall thai have and fynd Botis reddie in the " havin ordanit to them be the Officeris of this burt " reddely furneiſt with victuals to have thame to the " *Inche* *, and thair to remane quhill God proviyd for " thair Health: And that all uther perſonis the quilks " taks upon thame to hale the ſaid contagious infir- " mitie and taks the cure thairof that they devoyd " and paſs with thame ſua that nane of thair perſonis " quhilks taks ſic cure upon thame uſe the ſamyn " cure within this burt in pns nor peirt any manner " of way. And wha ſa beis foundin infectit and not " paſſand to the *Inche* as ſaid is be *Mononday* at the " Sone ganging to, and in lykways the ſaid perſonis " that takis the ſd Cure of ſanitie upon thame gif " they will uſe the ſamyn thai and ilk ane of thame " ſalle be brynt on the cheik with the marking Irne " that thai may be kennit in tym to cum and thair- " after gif any of tham remanis that thai ſall be " baniſt but favors."

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* An Iſland in the *Frith* of *Edinburgh* over-againſt *Leith*.